

Acts 18:18-22 **From Corinth home to Antioch of Syria** (Second Missionary journey ended)

18 So Paul still remained a good while. Then he took leave of the brethren and sailed for Syria, and Priscilla and Aquila were with him. He had his hair cut off at Cenchrea, for he had taken a vow. 19 And he came to Ephesus, and left them there; but he himself entered the synagogue and reasoned with the Jews. 20 When they asked him to stay a longer time with them, he did not consent, 21 but took leave of them, saying, "I must by all means keep this coming feast in Jerusalem; but I will return again to you, God willing." And he sailed from Ephesus. 22 And when he had landed at Caesarea, and gone up and greeted the church, he went down to Antioch. NKJV

Facts Revealed:

- ✚ Paul had gone from Athens to Corinth where he met Aquila and Priscilla, joining them in their trade of making tents (Jewish prayer shawls) to support himself. [Acts 18:1-3]
- ✚ Paul reasoned in the Synagogue every Sabbath persuading both Jews and Greeks including Crispus the ruler of the Synagogue, but turned to the Gentiles after encountering violent opposition. [Acts 18:4-8]
- ✚ Now the Lord spoke to Paul in the night by a vision, "Do not be afraid, but speak, and do not keep silent; for I am with you, and no one will attack you to hurt you; for I have many people in this city." [Acts 18:9-10]
- ✚ Paul continued a year and six months teaching the Word of God among them. [Acts 18:11]
- ✚ Paul was brought before Gallio for judgment but Gallio refused the case. [Acts 18:12-17]
- ✚ Paul remained in Corinth a good while. [Acts 18:18]
- ✚ Then he took leave of the brethren and sailed for Syria accompanied by Aquila and Priscilla. [Acts 18:18]
- ✚ Paul had made a vow and at Cenchrea he had his hair cut off. [Acts 18:18]
 - ✧ This was probably a Nazirite vow, because it involved cutting off his hair at the end of the time of consecration. [Numbers 6:1-21]
 - ✧ **Cenchrea** is the eastern sea port for Corinth opening to the Aegean Sea to the East from which Paul set sail to go to Syria.
- ✚ When they arrived at Ephesus Paul left Aquila and Priscilla there and entered the Synagogue and reasoned with the Jews. [Acts 18:19]
 - ✧ **Ephesus** is three miles inland from its harbor on the Aegean Sea, on the Western coast of the Roman province of Asia and connected by highways to the chief cities of the province.
 - ✧ As was Paul's custom, he took the Gospel message to the Jews first in their Synagogues.
 - ✧ Paul always took the Gospel message to the Jews first and presented his reasoning in the Synagogues on the Sabbath which became his custom. [Acts 9:20, 13:1-5, 14-42, 14:1, 17:1-2, 10, 16-17, 18:4, 19]
 - ✧ Paul reasoned from Jewish Scriptures that the Messiah needed to suffer, die and raise from the dead. [Acts 17:2, 17, 18:4]
- ✚ The Jews at Ephesus asked Paul to stay a longer time but he did not consent because he wanted to arrive in Jerusalem in time for the coming feast. [Acts 18:20-21]
- ✚ From Ephesus Paul sailed to Caesarea in Israel, went up to Jerusalem and greeted the Church, then he returned down to Antioch of Syria his home Church. [Acts 18:22]
 - ✧ **Caesarea** is a major seaport of Israel connecting by highways to Jerusalem and Joppa (Jaffa), seventeen miles south of Haifa.
 - ✧ Caesarea is the town where Philip the evangelist lived, as well as where Cornelius the Roman Centurion was converted at the preaching of Peter. [Acts 8:40, 10:1-48]
 - ✧ Paul was later taken from Jerusalem to Caesarea to be sent to Rome. [Acts 23:1-23]

